

Docket No. 0547-1006

REMARKS

Pursuant to a telephonic conversation held on December 15, 2004 with Examiner Matthew Henning, and in order to clarify which claims are pending, there is submitted herewith a further preliminary amendment. The current status of the claims is as follows:

claims 23-44 remain in this application, and claims 1-22 have been canceled.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly requested.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Benoit Castel, Reg. No. 35,041
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

BC/ia